

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00677 041616Z

41

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEA-09 EA-06 AF-06 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 ABF-01

FRB-03 AID-05 CU-02 IOE-00 /099 W
----- 021759

R 041533Z FEB 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 423

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 0677

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNESCO, PORG, XF

SUBJECT: BUFFUM-M'BOW MEETING,UNESCO

1. SUMMARY. BUFFUM AND DG M'BOW MET FOR OVER AN HOUR FEB 3 IN A CORDIAL AND FRANK ATMOSPHERE. THEY DISCUSSED THE JERUSALEM, AND REGIONAL ISSUES CONCERNING ISRAEL. M'BOW FEELS SOME GESTURE BY ISRAEL IS NEEDED FOR ACTION ON THE JERUSALEM RESOLUTION. HE IS MORE HOPEFUL ON THE REGIONAL MATTER AND PLANS TO TAKE POSITIVE INITIATIVES AT THE NEXT GENERAL CONFERENCE. M'BOW FEELS ANY ACTION BY UPCOMING EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MUST BE PRECEDED BY WORK IN THE CAPITALS WHICH WILL INSURE A FAVORABLE VOTE. IN THE EVENT OF A FINANCIAL SHORTFALL, M'BOW WILL ASK ALL MEMBER STATES FOR INTEREST FREE LOANS. M'BOW CONCURRED THAT IT WAS PREMATURE TO VISIT THE US. HE HOPED FOR MEASURES WHICH WOULD PERMIT CONTINUING THE UNESCO FELLOWS PROGRAM IN THE US. END SUMMARY.

2. ASST. SEC. BUFFUM AND PERM. REP. JONES MET FOR OVER AN HOUR WITH DG M'BOW. M'BOW SEEMED ANXIOUS TO COOPERATE IN FINDING WAYS TO MEET THE CURRENT CONGRESSIONAL MANDATE. M'BOW BEGAN CONVERSATION BY RETRACING HIS EFFORTS TO MODERATE ARAB POSITION AT RECENT GENERAL CONFERENCE. HE MENTIONED HIS RECENT VISITS WITH HEADS OF STATE, PARTICULARLY WITH BOUMEDIENNE, TITO, BOURGUIBA
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 00677 041616Z

AND THE JUST CONCLUDED VISIT TO PEKING. M'BOW STATED THAT HE FELT

ARAB POSITION MAY BE MODERATING, PARTICULARLY ON QUESTION OF ISRAELI ADMISSION TO EUROPEAN REGION.

3. RE JERUSALEM, M'BOW FEELS ARABS ARE DIVIDED ON SEVERITY OF MEASURES TO BE TAKEN. HE THINKS THE EGYPTIANS, TUNISIANS AND LEBANESE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE A MORE MODERATE POSITION. HE ALSO FEELS THE MAURITANIANS WOULD BE MODERATE. HOWEVER, M'BOW CONTINUED TO FEEL THAT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR SOME "GESTURE" ON THE PART OF ISRAEL FOR THERE TO BE ANY CHANCE OF SUCCESS IN MODERATING THE FORCE AND EFFECT OF THE JERUSALEM RESOLUTION. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS POSED BY BUFFUM, M'BOW DID NOT FEEL THERE WAS ANY POSSIBILITY OF GETTING AROUND RESOLUTION OF GENERAL CONFERENCE CUTTING OFF UNESCO PARTICIPATION PROGRAM TO ISRAEL. HE DID NOT CONSIDER THE RESOLUTION PERMITTED ANY LEEWAY, AND DESPITE BUFFUM'S COMMENT THAT THIS WAS KEY FACTOR, HE SAID THERE WAS NO WAY HE COULD PROVIDE ANY FUNDS FOR PROJECTS IN ISRAEL.

4. ON THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL ISSUE, M'BOW WAS MORE HOPEFUL. HE RECALLED HIS EFFORTS TO GAIN ADMISSION OF US TO THE EUROPEAN REGION, SPECIFICALLY RECALLING HIS EFFORTS WITH PRES. SENGHOR WHICH LED TO SENEGALESE SUPPORT. SECT. BUFFUM DISCUSSED POSSIBLE COURSES OF ACTION WITH M'BOW, INCLUDING A POSSIBLE RESOLUTION AT NEXT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING THAT WOULD RECOMMEND ACTION TO 1976 GENERAL CONFERENCE WITH EFFECT OF SUPPORTING ISRAELI ADMISSION. M'BOW WAS CATEGORIC IN STATING HE FULLY BELIEVED IN RIGHT OF AL STATES TO BELONG TO REGIONAL GROUPS. HE FEELS THAT AS DG HE HAS AUTHORITY TO TAKE POSITIVE ACTION IN THIS REGARD AT NEXT GENERAL CONFERENCE. M'BOW DID NOT BELIEVE ISRAEL COULD BE MENTIONED DIRECTLY. BUT HE DID BELIEVE POSITIVE ACTION COULD BE TAKEN WHICH COULD RESULT IN ISRAEL BEING ADMITTED. HOWEVER, IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL THAT A MAJORITY OF THE EUROPEAN STATES SUPPORT SUCH A MOVE. M'BOW SAID HE WILL BE MEETING SOON WITH PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU OF ROMANIA, AND HE PLANS TO DISCUSS THE REGIONAL QUESTION. IF THE WESTERN EUROPEANS WILL TAKE THE LEAD AND THE EASTERN BLOC NOT ACTIVELY OPPOSE, M'BOW FEELS ISRAEL MAY BE SUCCESSFUL. AS TO POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE BOARD ACTION, M'BOW STRESSED THAT VOTES MUST BE COUNTED IN ADVANCE AND CAREFUL PREPARATIONS MADE IN THE CAPITALS TO GUARANTEE SUCCESS. M'BOW POINTED OUT PERM. REPS AT UNESCO OFTEN ACT ON THEIR OWN AND ARE SUBJECT TO PRESSURE AND

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 GENEVA 00677 041616Z

INDIVIDUAL EMOTIONS (LEBANESE CITED AS GOOD EXAMPLE).

5. ON THE FINANCIAL SITUATION, BUFFUM EXPLAINED RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTION AND ASKED M'BOW HOW THE ORGANIZATION WOULD REACT TO THE PRESENT DIFFICULTY. M'BOW STATED HE WAS MANDATED BY GC TO CARRY OUT THE PROGRAM AND BUDGET WHICH WERE ADOPTED. HE FLATLY STATED THAT HE WOULD NOT SEEK FUNDS TO SPECIFICALLY REPLACE A

SHORTFALL CAUSED BY A STATE NOT PAYING ITS CONTRIBUTION. RATHER, UNESCO WOULD REQUEST INTEREST FREE LOANS OF ALL MEMBER STATES.

6. POSSIBLE TRIP TO US: BUFFUM SAID THAT IT WAS PROBABLY PREMATURE TO THINK OF US VISIT. M'BOW CONCURRED AND SAID HE WANTED TO COME ONLY WHEN THE TIMING WAS RIGHT. M'BOW ALSO STATED THAT HE WAS CONSIDERING ASSIGNING A UNESCO OFFICER TO WASHINGTON TO ACT AS LIAISON WITH THE WORLD BANK, IBRD, WITH THE DEPT AND POSSIBLY CONGRESS. HE MAY ALSO BEEF UP THE NEW YORK OFFICE WITH BETTER PUBLIC RELATIONS CAPABILITIES.

7. ASKED ABOUT POSSIBLY OF INVITING ISRAEL TO SOME SORT OF REGIONAL MEETING BEFORE NEXT GC, M'BOW DID NOT TAKE A POSITIVE VIEW. HE POINTED OUT THAT THERE ARE NO REGIONAL MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR EUROPE, AND HE DOUBTED ANYTHING COULD BE ARRANGED.

8. M'BOW MADE FREQUENT REFERENCE TO HIS RECENT TRIP TO CHINA WHERE HE MET WITH HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS, INCLUDING CHOU EN-LAI. HE STATED THAT HE FELT EVEN CHINA MIGHT TAKE A MORE MODERATE VIEW ON THE ISRAEL ISSUE AS THEY WOULD NOT WANT THE US TO WITHDRAW AND THUS INCREASE SOV INFLUENCE.

9. FINALLY, M'BOW RAISED RECENT CUT-OFF OF US ARRANGEMENTS FOR UNESCO FELLOWS. HE SAID THE LDC FELLOWS WOULD BE THE LOSERS AND THEY WOULD PROBABLY GO TO THE UK. HE HOPED US WOULD FIND SOME WAY TO CONTINUE THIS PROGRAM WHICH HE EMPHASIZED WAS NOT A PROGRAM FOR UNESCO BUT FOR THE LDC'S. DALE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975GENEVA00677
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750040-0704
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750275/aaaacplw.tel
Line Count: 143
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <14 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BUFFUM-M'BOW MEETING, UNESCO
TAGS: PORG, XF, UNESCO, (BUFFUM, WILLIAM B), (M'BOW, AMADOU MAHTAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006